

KERA Initiative Summary

4/29/04

Extended School Services

Anyone who has ever struggled with schoolwork – even in just one academic subject or one class – knows that a little extra help from a teacher or a tutor can make all the difference.

Kentucky's Extended School Services Program (ESS) provides that extra help. ESS provides additional instructional time for at-risk students. Schools schedule sessions outside normal school hours – before school, after school, in the evenings, in the summer, and during intersessions created by alternative calendars – to meet specific, identified student needs. Schools may also request a waiver to use a portion of their ESS funds to provide extra instructional time for students during the regular school day. This time must be in addition to the instruction provided by the regular classroom teacher. Instructions and guidelines for the waiver are available on the Kentucky Department of Education web page under Extended School Services. Because schools receive a state grant for this program, most services are free of charge to students and their parents.

Each school determines what services will best meet student needs. Schools typically offer one or more of these services:

- differentiated instructional activities in core content areas
- tutoring and small-group instruction
- help with homework and study skills
- transportation provided when necessary
- training for parents who want to help their children learn
- counseling or referrals to other sources of assistance
- peer tutoring
- professional development for teachers who are providing Extended School Services

Students must be referred for ESS and parents must grant permission before a student is enrolled in ESS activities. Students being served during the day do not need parent permission, but a school may choose to notify parents of the services. A student may participate in ESS on a short-term or long-term basis, depending on individual need.

Statutory References: KRS 158.6451; 704 KAR 3:390